

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (Currently amended): For use with a marine terminal crane at a dockside pier, a system for transferring to transfer a loaded containers to a ship alongside of a said dockside pier[[,]] by use of motorized vehicles comprising: a platform positioned on the dockside pier in underlying relation to the crane onto which each of the containers is transported by one of the a motorized vehicles to the pier in underlying relation to the crane; said platform comprising: table; reception means on the platform for reception receiving each of the vehicles with the container thereon in said underlying relation to the crane at the dockside pier; positioning means for displacement of the table reception means on the platform relative to the crane; and sensing means mounted on the platform for locationally detecting movement of the containers relative to the crane for and directionally controlling said displacement of the table reception means with the containers thereon by positioning into operative alignment below the crane to effect accommodate said transferring transfer of the container by the crane from the platform to the ship.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The ~~platform~~ system as defined in claim 1, including: a wheeled frame on which the ~~table~~ reception means is mounted; and ramp means hingedly connected to the frame for drive on of the vehicles with the container onto the platform and departure with the containers unloaded therefrom.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The ~~platform~~ system as defined in claim 2, wherein said positioning means includes: pairs of ball screw drive devices connected to the ~~table~~ reception means to impart ~~for imparting~~ said displacement thereto in two 90° related directions.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The ~~platform~~ system as defined in claim 3, wherein said sensing means includes: laterally spaced pairs of support plates fixed to the wheeled frame; and sensor elements mounted on said plates and interconnected to form a sensing grid operatively connected to the ball screw drive devices through which detection of said movement of the containers is effected.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The ~~platform~~ system as defined in claim 1, wherein said sensing means includes: laterally spaced pairs of support plates; and sensor elements mounted on said plates and interconnected to form a sensing grid through which detection of said movement of the container is effected.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): The ~~platform~~ system as defined in claim 1, wherein said positioning means includes: pairs of ball screw drive devices connected to the ~~table~~ reception means to impart ~~for imparting~~ said displacement thereto in two 90° related directions.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): The ~~platform~~ system as defined in claim 6, wherein said sensing means includes: laterally spaced pairs of support plates; and sensor elements mounted on said plates and interconnected to form a sensing grid connected to the ball screw drive devices through which detection of said movement of the containers is effected.